



What will you do to end childhood hunger?

What is the Summer Food Service Program?

The **Summer Food Service Program (SFSP)** was established in 1975 to provide **free** meals to children so that they receive the same high quality nutrition during school vacations that they get in school cafeterias during the school year. Continued nutrition helps children return to school ready to learn after summer vacation.

The SFSP is a federally funded program operated nationally by the U.S. Department of Agriculture and administered in Virginia by the Virginia Department of Health (VDH). Organizations with summer programs for kids sponsor the program and the State Department of Agriculture reimburses them for all meals served **free** at approved feeding sites in low-income areas to children 18 years and under.

Statewide, there is great need for the SFSP, particularly in those areas of the State with many children eligible for free or reduced price school meals.

How can you participate in the SFSP?

1. Become a *sponsor*;
2. Run a *feeding site*;
3. Be a *meal vendor*; or
4. *Volunteer* to help a sponsor or site.

Who can sponsor the SFSP?

Sponsorship of the SFSP is open to:

- ☐ schools;
- ☐ government agencies;
- ☐ summer camps; and
- ☐ private nonprofit organizations (e.g., churches, Community Action Agencies).

Interested organizations should call the State administering agency for further information.

What is a feeding site?

Sponsors can provide **free** meals at a central site such as a school, a park, a playground or a community center. Schools that are offering summer courses can open their meal service to the entire community by participating in the SFSP.

Meals are served **free** at sites that are operated or sponsored by a local organization and that are approved by the State Department of Education. In order for a site to be approved, at least 50 percent of the children in the area it serves, or 50 percent of its enrolled children, must be eligible for free or reduced price School Lunch meals.

Most sites may serve up to **two meals daily**, usually a lunch and a breakfast.

Camps can serve up to **three meals daily**, as can sites that serve primarily migrant children.

How Do I Provide a Meal Service?

Sponsors may choose to prepare the meals they serve under the program, contract with a school, or obtain them from a commercial meal vendor.

What kind of financial assistance is available?

Sponsors earn reimbursement for every meal served to a child. Sponsors receive reimbursement for costs on the basis of the number of meals served to children times the appropriate reimbursement rates below.

Sponsors that prepare their own meals or are located in rural areas can get a higher rate of administrative payment. The reimbursement rates for the summer of 2013 are provided below:

For meals served at <i>rural</i> or <i>self-preparation</i> sites	
breakfast	\$1.9800
lunch/supper	\$3.4700
snack	\$0.8200
For meals served at <i>other</i> types of sites	
breakfast	\$1.9425
lunch/supper	\$3.4125
snack	\$0.8000

Please view USDA's website for basic information about the Summer Food Service Program:

www.summerfood.usda.gov

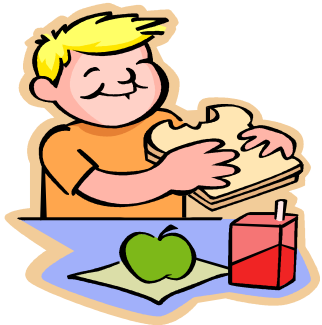
Administering Agency

If you are interested in seeing that children in your community get these meals, you can contact our office at the address and telephone number listed below. We will be happy to provide you with additional information.

Patricia Reddington, Summer Food Service
Program Liaison

Virginia Department of Health
109 Governor Street, 9th Floor
Richmond, Virginia 23219
1-877-618-7282

pat.reddington@vdh.virginia.gov



Everyone Wins with the SFSP!

- ❑ **Children** in low-income areas have **free** nutritious meals and organized activities during the summer.
- ❑ The **parents** of the children stretch food dollars and have healthy, supervised recreation for their children.
- ❑ **Your organization** receives Federal money to carry out the program.
- ❑ **Kids return to school in the Fall** ready to learn.



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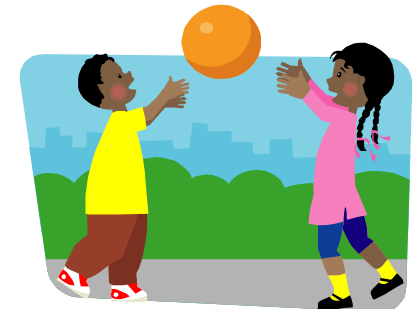


United States Department of Agriculture
Food & Nutrition Service

Virginia

Summer Food Service Program

2013



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